

K 2575

## Amended Claims

- Sub A1
1. A conjugate, comprising a fluorescent compound and a carrier, wherein the compound and the carrier are connected via an acidic ester or acidic amide bond or an enane bridge, the carrier is selected from the group consisting of serum albumin or a polyether, and the compound in the conjugate has an excitation wavelength of 630 nm or more and/or 450 nm or less.
  2. The conjugate according to claim 1, characterized in that the serum albumin is human serum albumin.
  3. The conjugate according to claim 1, characterized in that the polyether is a polyethylene glycol.
  4. The conjugate according to any one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that several carriers are present.
  5. The conjugate according to any one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the fluorescent compound comprises an acid group, hydroxyl group, amino group or aldehyde group.
  6. The conjugate according to any one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the excitation wavelength is 630 to 850 nm.
  7. The conjugate according to any one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that the excitation wavelength is 320 to 450 nm.
  8. The conjugate according to any one of claims 1 to 7, characterized in that the fluorescent compound is derived from porphyrin, chlorin, bacteriochlorin,

chlorophyll, phthalocyanine, carboxy cinnamic acid, carboxyfluorescein, acridic acid, coumaric acid or indocyanine green as well as the derivatives thereof.

9. The conjugate according to any one of claims 1 to 8, characterized in that several fluorescent compounds are present.
10. A method of producing a conjugate according to any one of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that the fluorescent compound and the carrier are covalently bonded thereby forming an acidic ester or acidic amide bond.
11. Use of a conjugate according to any one of claims 1 to 9 for differentiating between healthy and unhealthy tissue.

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add A2